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NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE WEEK

The news of the week is, of course, the unsuccessful attack by a German submarine on the *Greer*, a United States ship which was proceeding to Iceland with mails. Serious repercussions affecting the future policy of the United States *vis-a-vis* Germany are expected. Another incident is the sinking of *Steel Seafarer* in the Red Sea on Sunday by an aeroplane suspected to be German. The sinking of *Sessa*, 300 miles off Iceland, on August 17, has been announced. This ship flew the Panamanian flag.

A noteworthy development in the week is the landing in Spitzbergen, an island in the Arctic, of an Allied force consisting of British, Canadians and Norwegians. The main purpose of the landing was to prevent the enemy from utilizing the rich coal mines of Spitzbergen. The expedition has returned to Great Britain and it is stated that nothing of any use to the enemy remains in that place. A number of Norwegian miners and their families has now arrived in Great Britain. In America, the news has created a sensation and the British newspaper *Yorkshire Post* says that this expedition may be a prelude to further steps with a much more important bearing on the future course of the war.

Briefly, the position in Russia is as follows: The situation in Leningrad is serious and there is a fresh move to Murmansk, but remarkable Russian resistance justifies an attitude of cautious optimism. Leningrad has not been encircled, according to Moscow. Remarkable Russian successes are reported in the Central Sector as a result of vigorous counter-attacks. One hundred thousand Germans have been accounted for and the remnants are retreating in a western direction from Yelnya near Smolensk. Yelnya has been captured and numerous villages have been retaken. Odessa still holds out and the progress of the Rumanian army in that sector has been definitely checked.

An example of the frightful methods followed by Germany in occupied countries is the shooting of three French hostages as a reprisal for attempted assassinations of Germans. The reason was that an enquiry established that the guilty person could not be other than a Communist, and as a reprisal this step was taken.

In a Gallup-Poll in America, the question was asked: "Do you think the United States should now take steps to keep Japan from becoming more powerful, even if this means risking war with her?" Seventy per cent replied in the affirmative, 18 per cent in the negative, 12 per cent were uncertain.

A White Paper has been issued containing the correspondence between the British and United States Governments regarding the assurances given by Great Britain respecting the use of materials received under the Lease and Lend Act. Exports from Great Britain will be reduced so that they may not compete with American products. England will maintain two-thirds of her normal exports to secure essential dollar exchange. Trade with Argentine and Venezula will be maintained in order that Great Britain may be able to secure foodstuffs and oil respectively.

Mr. Churchill revealed in the House of Commons on Thursday that hundreds of fighter aircraft have already been sent to Russia and more were being sent. Assistance of every kind was being given, such aid, in some instances, being half the available stocks.

A German raider has sunk a Danish ship sailing for America carrying rubber, tin and palm oil.

British propaganda in enemy occupied-country is to be intensified.

Aggravation of political tension is stated to be the reason for the creation of a General Staff for the defence of Japan proper, Korea, Formosa and Sakhalin. Japan will be divided into four military districts.

SERIOUS AXIS SHIPPING LOSSES

The Battle of the Atlantic has not been won, but as Mr. Churchill pointed out in the House of Commons on Tuesday, there has been a great falling off in the sinkings of British and Allied shipping, with a corresponding increase in the tonnage of invaluable cargoes safely landed in British shores. The safe arrival recently in England of one of the biggest convoys without any loss whatsoever has been reported. There has been an extraordinary rise during the last three months in the destruction of German and Italian shipping. The sinkings of Allied ships by enemy action in July and August have been very low, despite the fact that the number of U-boats operating against British shipping has not decreased.

The losses of the enemies have been very heavy. The Fleet Air Arm has been responsible in the last few days for attacking convoys, especially in the Mediterranean. An enemy destroyer, a submarine and two other ships have been sunk or destroyed in the Mediterranean. British submarines have been responsible for sinking an Italian liner and another vessel, an Italian schooner and a tanker in the same area. The sinking by a submarine of the Italian ship *Maya* in the Aegean Sea has been reported. In the Atlantic, a destroyer has sunk two submarines. The Navy operating near Murmansk has sunk a German destroyer, a trawler and another vessel. In the Norwegian waters, a German artillery training ship has been sunk and the Navy has been further responsible for sending to the bottom of the sea, two supply ships in the English Channel. These are remarkable successes.

The sinking of British and Allied ships in July and August, it is said, did not amount to more than one-third of the German and Italian tonnage sunk by Allied aircraft and submarines.

THE "GREER" INCIDENT AND AFTER

What promises to become an event of major importance is the attack made by a submarine on the United States destroyer *Greer* which was proceeding to Iceland with mail. This occurred on the 4th September 1941, after day-light, when visibility was very clear. The *Greer* had a normal complement of 122 officers and men and a tonnage of 1,090. The attack took place on the American side of the Atlantic Ocean and according to President Roosevelt, the *Greer* carried her identification number and the United States flag. The torpedoes missed their mark and the *Greer* counter-attacked with depth charges and it is believed that the submarine was hit.

According to the German official version it was the *Greer* which attacked first with depth charges to which the submarine replied with torpedoes which missed their mark. The torpedoes had to be fired in "justifiable self-defence," according to the German version. The official German account also insinuated that President Roosevelt had ordered American destroyers not only to report the location of German submarines, which was in itself a breach of neutrality, but had also ordered them to attack. The aggressive act on the part of the *Greer* was therefore an attempt to provoke an incident to incite the American nation to war against Germany. The Navy Department at Washington has issued a categorical denial of this German version. The initial attack, according to this statement, was made by the submarine on the *Greer*. It was then, not until then, that the *Greer* counter-attacked. It may be recalled in this connection that *Robin Moor*, an American ship, was attacked by a German submarine on 10th June 1941 and it provoked in America very strong feelings against Germany.

President Roosevelt told the Press Conference that, if the submarine was found, it would be eliminated. The meaning of this is crystal clear. The British press states that the question whether it is a major incident which will lead America into war, is one for the United States to solve. The American press is inclined to view the incident in a serious fashion and comment is made that, if any direct action is taken by the United States, it would be not so much on behalf of Great Britain as in the interests of the United States and in defence of the principle of freedom of the seas. There can be no doubt, according to the American press, that the incident was provocative.

Close on the heels of this incident is published a report that *Steel Seafarer*, an American freighter, has been sunk by an aeroplane bomb in the Red Sea on Sunday. German long distance bombers, it is said, have been operating at night far south of the Suez, perhaps from bases in the Dodecanese Islands. What effect these incidents will have on the international situation remains to be seen.

Again, the news has been released of the sinking of *Sessa*, a former Danish ship, taken over by the American Maritime Commission. It was attacked without warning on August 17, torpedoed and sunk. There were only three survivors. The cargo did not include any war materials.

President Roosevelt, in his long-expected broadcast speech on Friday morning uttered a solemn warning to the Axis Powers that if their ships sailed in the defensive waters of the United States, they would do so at their peril. The United States had no desire for 'shooting' war. But if the Axis craft interfered with United States ships while on legitimate business, the United States Navy had definite orders to deal with such interference. The "Greer" incident was not an isolated one, the President went on to say. It was piracy legally and morally. The Axis craft were rattle-snakes which were set adrift to get control over the seas and then threaten America. The time for active defence was now. The United States Navy was invincible so long as the British Navy was safe.

RUSSIANS HIT BACK

Leningrad, Moscow, Kiev and Odessa continue to elude the Germans. Nothing is gained by minimizing the danger to Leningrad but the Russian defenders, personally directed by Marshal Voroshilov, have been hitting back to such effect that, in spite of the German claim to have encircled the city, it can be stated definitely that the Russians have recovered much of the lost ground. And Leningrad maintains full railway communications with Moscow and other centres. The Germans announce the capture of Schlusselburg, 25 miles east of the city, and the Finns claim to have reached the river Svir between Lake Onega and Lake Ladoga. These thrusts are undoubtedly full of danger but the Russians have evidently made their offensive and defensive preparations to meet all exigencies and express the utmost confidence in their ability to beat off the Germans from "the City of Lenin."

And in the Central Sector, they have definitely taken the offensive. What started as a Russian attempt to feel for weak spots in the enemy's advanced line has developed into a strong counter-offensive, threatening the Germans under Marshal von Block who have been holding a line approximately from Smolensk to the north of the Pripet Marshes. The Russians' pincers movement, of which we spoke last week, aiming simultaneously at Smolensk and Bobruisk, is meeting with such success that the German drive to Moscow has been definitely checked. The Russians have retaken Yelnya near Smolensk and also over fifty villages in the Central Sector. The Cossack troops especially, true to their Great War traditions, have worked wonders, and ten German divisions in all have been annihilated in the Central Sector and a German General killed.

The Russian successes in the centre have also had the effect of administering a setback to any hope that von Block might have entertained of advancing from Gomel through Kharkov and on to the south to menace the rear of Marchal Budenny's forces holding the lower Dnieper. All the German attempts to throw pontoon bridges across the Dnieper have thus far been frustrated by the skill and gallantry of Russian airmen and gunners. In the extreme south Odessa is holding out and the Rumanians have been brought to a standstill by the strength of its defences.

Finally, to complete this picture of the Eastern Front in the twelfth week of the German campaign, we must not forget that the Russians have carried out two air raids on Berlin this week and the Russian Navy continues to take toll of enemy transports in the Baltic. And they will be heartened by the knowledge that British supplies are coming through in large quantities; that American tankers have reached Vladivostok with fuel for the Soviet; that the British Navy is operating off Murmansk in the Arctic regions and has just sunk a German destroyer, an armoured trawler and another vessel; that, thanks to the Allied expedition to the Island of Spitzbergen, Germany has been deprived of valuable coal supplies; and, finally, that the Royal Air Force is carrying out a systematic campaign against Germany on the Western Front, Berlin being subjected this week to the heaviest raid ever.

THE SITUATION IN IRAN

RUSSO-BRITISH TERMS ACCEPTED

Naturally the delay in the settlement of the terms with Iran about the temporary joint British and Russian occupation of that country gave rise to some anxiety. There was no doubt, however, that the final outcome of the negotiations would be quite satisfactory to the Allied cause. The British and Soviet representatives in Teheran asked for the expulsion or internment of the Germans and other Axis nationals in Iran and the note further demanded the closure of the Axis Legations in Teheran. At a special session of the Iranian Parliament held on Tuesday (9th September 1941) the Iranian Premier announced that the Government had accepted all the Anglo-Russian demands, although the occupation of certain towns was still being questioned. The German, Italian, Hungarian and Rumanian Legations would be closed and Axis subjects would be handed over to the British and Russian forces. There was some delay in handing over, and Germans are now being rounded up by Allied forces. The Iranian troops would be withdrawn from certain specified areas but under the Armistice terms they will be permitted to retain arms and equipment.

DISPOSITION OF ALLIED FORCES

The British have advanced Indian troops to Sultanabad which has important oil wells. This town lies on the Trans-Persian railway and its control, which is now complete, is important because it is a link between the Caspian Sea and the Persian Gulf. The Allied troops are in occupation of strategic areas in the north and west of Iran though no British or Russian troops are stationed in the capital.

Russian troops have occupied Meshed, as also other positions along the Meshed-Teheran Trunk Road and ports on the southern shore of the Caspian Sea. Other Russian forces operating from the Caucasus have occupied the 250 miles wide neck of land between Turkey's eastern frontier and the western shore of the Caspian Sea, advancing as far as Kuzvin where contact has been established with the British forces. There is now no means of escape for the Germans in Iran and so it is stated that they have given up all attempts to try to escape.

NAZI ATTEMPTS FRUSTRATED

It is perfectly obvious that Britain and Russia could have taken no other steps than the ones they have taken, if Hitler should be prevented from securing control over the Middle East. It would have been a stupendous folly, with the example of Norway, Holland and Belgium before them, if Britain and Russia had awaited to take action until Hitler had completed his plans and struck. It is impossible that Iran, even if she was willing to resist, could have resisted effectively alone.

Syria, Iraq and Iran constitute the block of territory which links India with the Mediterranean and the Caspian Sea with the Persian Gulf and the open highways. If the Nazis had taken hold of this vast territory they could have struck north against the heart of Russia, to the east against India and to the south against Suez and Egypt. Further the Germans would have taken control of one of the most important sources of the world's oil supply. If the military action which has been taken had not been taken, then all these countries would have by now been within the grasp of Germany. For, Syria was on the point of being handed over by Vichy, just as Indo-China was handed over practically to Japanese hands. Rashid Ali had taken the reins of Government in Iraq and had planned full collaboration with the Axis Powers. In Iran itself Germans had taken control of the principal industries and key positions and what happened in the Balkans would have also happened in Iran. A dangerous situation arose when the Germans had taken hold of Greece, Crete and the Greek islands and reached the western frontier of Egypt. But then Tobruk was strongly held and the Turks were obstinate and would not allow arms either from Germany or from Vichy France to pass through their country. It was at this stage that the British advanced into Iraq, as a result of which Rashid Ali and his associates fled from Baghdad to Iran. Syria was then taken hold of and the German intruder was eliminated. The problem of Iran had then to be dealt with. For over a year, German technicians and political agents had penetrated into strategic posts and friendly representations were made to the Shah to put a stop to this infiltration. Germany invaded Russia and it was the ambition of the Nazis to take hold of the Ukraine and the oil-fields of Trans-Caucasia and Iran, in which case Iran would have had no other option but to follow the ignominious example of Rumania and Bulgaria.

INTERESTS OF ALLIES

A Nazified Iran would have been a menace which neither Russia nor Britain could afford to ignore because it vitally affected the Anglo-Soviet front stretching from Archangel to Tobruk and it cut off the Russians from access to the British and American supplies by way of the Persian Gulf if and when it became necessary. A reference to Mr. Churchill's speech on Tuesday in the House of Commons will also reveal the fact that Russia and Great Britain attach the greatest possible importance to the necessity of sending aid to Russia from the Persian Gulf and Persia on to the Caucasus. But the Iran Government would

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MR. CHURCHILL'S SPEECH

REVIEW OF THE MILITARY SITUATION

In his survey of the military situation on the various fronts, Mr. Churchill made many points in his speech in the House of Commons on Tuesday, the 9th September. His conclusion was that, while a year ago, the British position looked forlorn and well-nigh desperate to all eyes but the British, today they may say before an awe-struck world: "We are masters of our fate and captains of our souls."

The following are the points which he made. At the Roosevelt-Churchill meeting, four questions were discussed. They were :—

(1) The Eight-point Declaration of broad principles and aims which guide and govern the action of the British and United States Governments and their peoples;

(2) The measures to be taken to help Russia to resist the hideous onslaught of Hitler;

(3) The policy to be pursued towards Japan in order, if possible, to stop further encroachments in the Far East which endanger the safety of the interests of Great Britain or the United States;

(4) Numerous technical matters. Close personal relations were established between the High Naval, Military and Air Commands of both the countries.

THE EIGHT-POINT DECLARATION

Mr. Churchill said that the eight-point statement was a united declaration and set up a milestone or a monument which needed only the stroke of victory to become a permanent part of the history of human progress. The declaration did not try to explain how the principles would be applied to each and every case as they would have to be dealt with when the war ends. It did not qualify in any way the various statements of policy made from time to time about the development of Constitutional Government in India, Burma or other parts of the world.

INDIA AND THE DECLARATION

About Indian policy, Mr. Churchill stated :

'The Joint Declaration does not qualify in any way the various statements of policy which have been made from time to time about the development of constitutional government in India, Burma or other parts of the British Empire.'

'We have pledged, by the Declaration of August 1940, to help India to obtain free and equal partnership in the British Commonwealth with ourselves, subject, of course, to the fulfilment of the obligations arising from our long connexion with India and our responsibilities to its many creeds, races and interests.'

'Burma also is covered by our considered policy of establishing Burma's self-government and by measures already in progress.'

'At the Atlantic meeting, we had in mind primarily the extension of the sovereignty, self-government and national life of the States and nations of Europe now under the Nazi yoke and the principles which should govern any alterations in the territorial boundaries of countries which may have to be made. That is quite a separate problem from the progressive evolution of self-governing institutions in regions whose peoples owe allegiance to the British Crown. We have made declarations on these matters which are complete in themselves, free from ambiguity and related to the conditions and circumstances of the territories and peoples affected. They will be found to be entirely in harmony with the conception of freedom and justice which inspired the Joint Declaration.'

THE BATTLE OF THE ATLANTIC.

Mr. Churchill said that there was a great falling off in the sinkings of British and Allied shipping in the last few weeks, while there was an increase in the tonnage of invaluable cargoes safely landed in British shores. During the last three months, there had been a great improvement in the sinkings of German and Italian shippings largely due to the brilliant tactics of the Coastal Command and the R.A.F. bombing squadrons. The sinkings of Allied ships did not amount to much more than one-third of the German and Italian tonnage sunk by British aircraft and submarines. It was also remarkable, considering the fact that British shipping presented ten or twenty times the target to hostile attack upon the seas that was presented to the British by the enemy shipping.

Paying a tribute to the British submarine service, Mr. Churchill said: British submarines have sunk or seriously damaged 17 enemy warships and some of them were U-boats. One hundred and five supply ships have been sunk by the torpedoes of the British submarines, making an average of 15 ships monthly or one ship in every two days, and they included quite a large number of laden troop transports, and tankers.

Almost every night thirty or forty enemy aeroplanes are casting destructive mines at the most likely spots to catch British shipping. A new menace is the acoustic mine, but the resources of British scientists have helped greatly to counter-act these menaces.

THE MIDDLE EAST.

Iraq.—Mr. Churchill revealed that 4,000 German specialist troops intended to march across Syria to Iraq were killed in the action in Crete and large numbers of aircraft carriers were also destroyed. This was the explanation of the German failure to bring succour to Iraq. The Treaty of Iraq was being loyally observed by both sides and though there were still dangers in that country, there was no cause for major anxiety.

Syria.—Surveying the operations in Syria and the final result, Mr. Churchill said that Syria would be handed over to Syrians who will assume at the earliest possible moment their independent sovereign rights. This would not wait till the end of the war and it was contemplated that Syria would take an increasing share in the administration. French interests in Syria were akin to British interests in Egypt and they were special.

Egypt.—Mr. Churchill said that he felt considerable confidence that the British would be able to defend Egypt successfully from German invasion across the Western Desert, because the position, both on the western and the eastern flank of the Nile Valley, had been greatly improved.

Iran.—The operations in Iran had three objects: (1) The surrender into British hands of all Germans and Italians who were in that country, (2) the expulsion of the German and Italian legations and (3) the unquestioned control and maintenance of through communications from Basrah to the Caspian Sea. Mr. Churchill said that he attached great importance to the opening of the shortest route to Russia and every effort would be made to improve railway communications and expand the volume of supplies which could be transported over the existing British gauge railway which had been recently completed.

RUSSIA.

Mr. Churchill, after paying a tribute to the magnificent resistance by the Russian army to the German invaders and the skill displayed by them in making defence arrangements, said that the Germans in the last three months had lost more blood than in any single year of the last war, and the Russians were certain of maintaining their armies through the Russian winter from the Arctic to the Black Sea. The question of help to Russia was being actively discussed and while disclosure of military projects which had been examined would be harmful, there was recognition of the need for urgent help. There were formidable difficulties, such as time, distance, geography, limitations of transport and shipping facilities. Of the three routes, the Arctic route by way of Archangel may be hampered by winter ice, the far eastern route *via* Vladivostok which was scowled upon by the Japanese was very round about, but the route across Persia which stretched from the Persian Gulf into the great inland sea, the Caspian, would be fully utilized and supplies were already on their way. Great sacrifices would be made to assist Russia in time.

A COMPARISON.

When the French fell, Mr. Churchill said, "We had in those parts about eighty to one hundred thousand men, starved of munitions and equipment which had been sent to the French front—always the first to claim the best we had. We had lost our means of safe communication through the Mediterranean and almost all the main bases on which we relied. We were anxiously concerned for our defence of Nairobi, Khartoum, British Somaliland and above all of the Nile Valley and Palestine, including the famous cities of Cairo and Jerusalem. Now after a little more than a year, we have managed to gather very large and well-equipped armies which already begin to approach 750,000, supplied with masses of equipment of all kinds. We have developed our air force almost as large as we had in Britain when the war began and it is rapidly expanding. We have conquered the whole Italian Empire in Abyssinia and Eritrea and killed or taken prisoner the Italian armies of over 400,000 men by which these regions were defended. We have defended the frontiers of Egypt against any Italian attack. We have consolidated our position in Palestine and Iraq. We have taken effective control of Syria and provided for the security of Cyprus. Finally, by a swift and vigorous campaign in Persia, we have joined hands with our Russian Allies and stand in a line to bar the further progress of the enemy. Whatever the future may contain, these are achievements which will earn the respect of history."

INDIA'S DANGER AND OPPORTUNITY

I. THE AXIS

1940

DICTATORS' DESIGNS

1. In the British Commonwealth's darkest hour, with North-West Europe overrun and Britain gravely menaced, Italy, delivers stab in the back.

2. Defence of Egypt and Suez, India's vital western gateway, is huge new problem with French defection and Italian hostility.

Nationalist editor of Cairo weekly *Al Mussawar* tells Duce in open letter (Aug. 4) that "Egypt would never think of replacing the alliance with Great Britain by a bond with any other power, least of all with the country which had proclaimed her intention of including Egypt and the Sudan in a re-established Roman Empire, to whose record in Libya Egyptians are not blind."

Meanwhile Graziani masses well-equipped legions on Egyptian frontier. "We shall very soon have plenty of work to do," says Wavell (Aug. 21). On September 15, promised date for German invasion of Britain, Italians cross border. Reaching Sidi Barrani, Graziani prophesies fall of Alexandria.

3. Large forces in Italy's East African Empire were ready to march into British Somaliland, Kenya, Sudan. British evacuation of Somaliland in August after delaying action brings Italy 460 miles of Indian Ocean coastline, prompts German boast (August 21): "The British route from India has now gone out of British hands."

Says Churchill (August 20): "We intend to do our best."

1941

DICTATORS FRUSTRATED

1. The challenge was met. Italy was brought to the choice of surrender to Britain or surrender to Germany. Mussolini chose the latter, and his country became "that subject, abject province of Germany."

Now British and Indian troops face the Duce's rescuer with equal resolution.

2. January and February 1941 saw dramatic events in African theatre. Bardia, vaunted Fascist bastion, fell to Wavell on January 4, Tobruk on January 23, Derna on January 30, Cyrene on February 3, Benghazi on February 6, while from Rome Ansaldo cried "Woe!" Graziani had lost two-thirds of his forces and mountains of material.

Indian troops, starting the Italian rout by brilliant Sidi Barrani action, "won golden opinions everywhere," says Commander-in-Chief Auchinleck (February 9). Public holidays in India marked outstanding feats, and leading men sent congratulations.

3. March and April witness mortal blows at Italian East Africa. Epic of Keren seals doom of Eritrea and covers Indian troops with glory.

"British Indian divisions," says Churchill (May 20), "have gained fresh laurels in the fighting from Kassala, and all the way from Kassala and Keren up to the final events."

First troops to land at Berbera for recapture of Somaliland are carried in H.M.I.S. *Parvati* and *Nelravati*.

Cleared by Imperial and Allied forces, Abyssinia welcomes back Haile Selassie, first Axis victim and first to return to his heritage. Heavy Axis price is at least 213,000 casualties in first Western Desert Campaign, Sudan and Eritrea alone. Indian casualties total 6,427, proportion of killed to wounded being 1 to 5·7. In Mesopotamian campaign of last Great War, Indian Army suffered 13,812 casualties, with killed to wounded as 1 to 3·2.

1940

4. Italy's entry into the war brought large, untried and hostile naval forces to replace Britain's French ally. Bulk of British shipping to India had to be diverted to Cape Route.

Berlin tells Persian radio listeners (October 23): "British power in the Red Sea and the Mediterranean has come to an end." Rome fakes photo of Italian flag at Aden for Balkan circulation. Axis raiders and radio menace shipping in Indian ocean. Sinking of R.I.N. sloop *Pathan* (June 24) shows proximity of danger.

5. Italy has over 2,000 first-line planes and nearest Axis bases to India. Propaganda raid on Bahrein (October) is hailed in Rome as long-distance record threatening.

6. Meanwhile Axis agents prepare the sapping of India's Middle Eastern defences from within, aided by Quislings and Vichy weakness.

Conscious of the real nature of Hitlerism, India knows that if the Axis junior partner fails in one quarter, danger will rise elsewhere. Mahatma Gandhi gives clear definition (June 22): "Whatever Hitlerism may ultimately prove to be, we know what Hitlerism has come to mean. It means naked, ruthless force reduced to an exact science and worked with scientific precision."

7. Hitler's plan is to threaten India's eastern gate at Singapore at the same time as the drive to Suez and the attack on Britain. Detailed for this work, Japan joins Germany and Italy in Triple Pact (September).

Thai-Indo-China conflict gives Tokyo chance for extending influence towards Malaya, where strength of India's eastern bastion is still untried.

Burma Road for supplies to China, temporarily closed in July at moment of extreme peril is reopened by Britain, October 17.

1941

4. Taranto, Matapan and daily work of Navy and Royal Air Force destroy nearly half Italy's cruiser, destroyer and submarine strength, sink one capital ship and damage others.

Red Sea, swept of enemy, becomes United States supply route for Middle East. First enemy to reach Aden are crew of Italian submarine captured and towed in by British trawler.

German raider sunk in Indian Ocean by H.M.S. *Cornwall* (May 9) demonstrates control of Indian sea-routes by Royal Navy and Royal Indian Navy.

5. Itlay admits 3,565 airmen lost. Her advanced bases are smoked out.

6. Scientific precision of Axis plans in Arab countries is upset just in time by British and Allied action.

In Iraq Rashid Ali, in Axis pay, seizes power and attacks British troops, thus threatening India's defences and communications. British and Indian soldiers, with the Royal Air Force and Indian civil aviators, eradicate danger and force Rashid Ali to flight while Britain restores Iraqi sovereignty retaining only treaty rights.

From Syrian aerodromes Germany offers Rashid Ali belated and ineffectual help, then provokes fractricidal conflict in Syria to regain Middle Eastern position. British, Indian, Australian and Allied troops remove Syrian peril in hard and well-fought campaign.

Iran is next field for Hitler's agents. Indians again play notable part in brief British cleansing action necessitated, in concert with Russia, after failure of warnings to Tehran. Thus closest bombing-threat to India is dealt with.

7. Danger and tension remain. But the eastern gate has been steadily strengthened. Manned by increasing numbers of British, Indian and Australian troops, defences are extended through Malaya and Burma. Under Commander-in-Chief Sir R. Brooke-Popham, Singapore is regarded as world's strongest base, with largest 18-inch coastal guns, planes, anti-aircraft and secret defences.

Cautious Japanese aggression gives her bases in Indo-China, but united A.B.C.D. front replies with economic sanctions, is ready for military action if necessary. "This has got to stop", says Churchill (August 24) of Japanese aggression.

II. INDIA

1940

1. Armed Forces

Indian Army strength before the war was about 57,000 British (due to be reduced) and 157,000 Indian regulars, with the A.F.(I.) of 24,000, I.T.F. of 19,000, I.A.R. of 35,400 and the Indian States Forces of 47,000.

Recruits came forward readily, but the necessary speed-up in mechanisation involved big problems, and training of officers and men takes time.

Animal Transport Companies served in France and shared glory of Dunkirk, while an Indian division stood guard on Egypt's frontier, and Indians helped in Somaliland defence. But the expansion scheme necessitated by Axis advances had not completed by first war-anniversary its first 100,000 soldiers.

2. Finance and Trade

Indian Defence Savings Movement to finance strengthening of defence services announced in June.

India's imports in April, May and June are of the value of Rs. 45 crores.

3. Industrial Expansion

Eastern Group Conference meets in New Delhi (October 25) to promote trade between the Commonwealth countries east of Suez, stimulate production and ensure joint economic policy with common object of winning war.

"In defence of our common freedom," says Churchill, "you are indeed building up a new world of armed strength to redress the balance of the old."

Exported articles wholly or mainly manufactured in India were of the total value in 1938–39 of Rs. 47,61,00,000.

1941

1. Armed Forces

"To-day there are well over 100,000 Indian troops serving overseas, and the total of India's fighting forces is approaching the mark of one million."—Commander-in-Chief Wavell, September 3, 1941.

"The output of trained drivers has grown to 40 times what it was in 1939."—Sir J. Raisman, February 29.

The year ended April 1941 saw 4 cavalry regiments, 5 batteries and 1 section of artillery, 4 companies and 1 section of sappers and miners, 23 battalions of infantry, 1 camel corps unit and 3 animal transport companies leaving the Indian States for service under the Crown.

"During the last year the R.I.N. has made an expansion unprecedented in India's history", said Gen. Wavell on September 3, "and will soon form an impressive and most valuable fleet."

Nine training centres are equipped and working to produce mechanics for the expanding Air Force.

2. Finance and Trade

Grand total of subscriptions to all Indian Defence Loans up to August 23 is Rs. 81,36,12,000.

Completion of sterling repatriation (announced February) reduces India's sterling obligations by over Rs. 220 crores since 1935.

Reserve Bank's "net profits during the year", says Sir J. Taylor, August 11, "have increased very largely, amounting to Rs. 279 lakhs as compared with Rs. 29 lakhs for the half year ending in 1940." As a result Reserve Bank can pay Rs. 262 lakhs to Central Government.

Viceroy's War Purposes Fund reaches Rs. 4,65,38,000 (July 15).

With India's sea-routes held open, imports in April, May and June total Rs. 52 crores.

3. Industrial Expansion

India has gone a long way towards becoming the Eastern Arsenal of the war effort.

Sir M. Zafrullah Khan said on July 17 that Indian Ordnance Factories are being assisted by 250 "trade" workshops and 23 railway workshops, which have undertaken the production of 700 items of munitions supply involving 20,000,000 individual articles. Fifty-four Indian firms are now making machine-tools. The output of filled shells is already 24 times the pre-war figure and is expected to rise in two stages to 96 times.

Benefit to India's general trade is shown by increase of export value of articles wholly or mainly manufactured in India to Rs. 81,24,00,000 in 1940–41.

IRAN AND HER NEIGHBOURS

FACTS . . . AND A CONTRAST

From time to time the Germans have confessed to the designs on Iran and the Middle East which have been frustrated by British and Allied action in Iraq, Syria and Iran, as well as by the defence of Egypt and Suez and the clearance of the Italians from East Africa.

"In the East we must have the mastery as far as the Caucasus and Iran," said Hitler to Hermann Rauschnigg soon after he came to power in 1933.

"Two regions are of manifest importance to us, i.e., Turkey-Egypt and Iran," declared the authors of a German memorandum on the Middle East in 1934.

"The British adventure in the Balkans," crowed the German radio on May 5, 1941, "might lead to Germany reaching the oil zones of Iraq and Iran, as well as to the liquidation of Britain's position in Egypt."

Checked at so many points, the Nazis furiously accuse Britain and her Allies of "criminal aggression" and the "destruction of Moslem States." From such a source nothing would be believed by anyone with full access to the truth. But truth is the Nazis' first victim.

To view in their proper light the reports, rumours and infamous accusations circulated by the Axis, compare the following records of established fact :

BRITAIN

Warnings to Iran

Friendly warnings of Iran's danger from Germany were given at Teheran through accepted diplomatic channels over several months, culminating in July and August 1941. Only when the danger was acute and the Iranian Government took no action did Britain act in concert with her Russian ally.

Aircraft drop Leaflets

The Royal Air Force dropped leaflets over Iran explaining to the people the reasons for British action. Military aerodromes were attacked, but the German allegation of the bombing of open towns is an open lie.

Bringing Food

Food-trucks follow the British forces into Iran, as they did into Syria, to replenish the stocks which had been seriously depleted by German demands.

GERMANY

Deceiving her Victims

Non-aggression pacts and public declarations of peaceful intentions preceded ferocious German invasions of Poland, Norway, Holland, Belgium and the Balkan countries.

Three hours after German troops had marched into the Low Countries and German aircraft had bombed Dutch and Belgian towns, the German radio was still denying any thought of invasion.

Aerial Terror Tactics

To compel the Dutch to lay down arms, 30,000 people in undefended Rotterdam were killed in 7½ minutes by German bombers. The first targets in the German attack on Yugoslavia were the civilians of the open city of Belgrade.

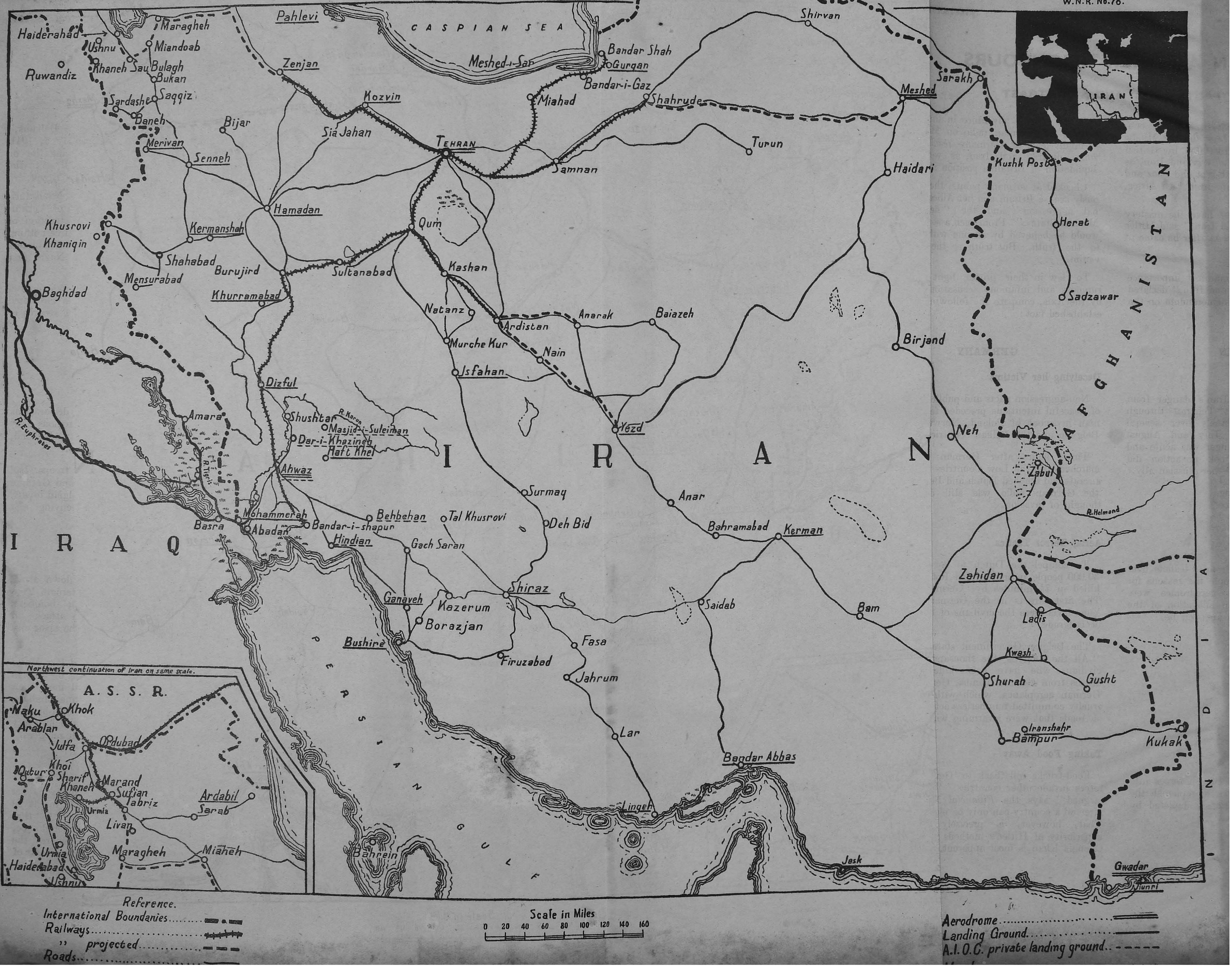
The Belgian Government stated last May : "All the civilians, the thousands of Belgian civilians, who have been killed met their deaths from German bombs, German bullets, German aeroplanes, which with cold-blooded cruelty committed numberless acts of butchery on roads that were swarming with refugees."

Taking Food Away

Food-trucks roll back to Germany as her forces invade other countries. "It might be argued," says the *Financial News*, "that after all a country can only be plundered once. That, however, is precisely where the superiority of Hitler's methods over those of Chengis Khan is most apparent."

IRAN

W.N.R. No. 76.



BRITAIN

Sovereignty

After entering Iran in the last war for a similar purpose, Britain withdrew all her troops and left Iran to develop in her own way.

Though supported as a mandatory power by international sanction, Britain secured Iraq's independence and League membership in 1932 after organizing her administration, training her forces, developing her resources and bringing her prosperity. The Nazi-sponsored Rashid Ali rebellion was suppressed with the minimum necessary force, and Britain then demanded from Iraq no more than her treaty rights.

Britain agreed in 1928 to Transjordan's constitutional independence. In 1936 she signed the Anglo-Egyptian treaty of alliance by which the present Premier, Hussein Sirry Pasha, has declared Egypt abides. Though Syria was previously under French mandate, Britain is strongly supporting the Free French pledge of Syrian self-government.

GERMANY

Domination

Only one sovereign remains in the German occupied countries and he (King Albert of the Belgians) is a prisoner of war.

Ancient constitutional rights have been set aside, popular institutions such as the Trade Unions have been disbanded and their funds confiscated. Government is by Nazi Gauleiters or subservient Quislings. The Press is censored by German officers even to headlines and advertisements, and listening to foreign radios involves imprisonment or death.

In certain territories, notably in Poland, a deliberate attempt to destroy a whole nation by mass execution, starvation and sterilizing has been set in motion. Here and in Czechoslovakia all national schools, libraries and other cultural institutions have been confiscated or closed, and national monuments destroyed or defaced.

THE SITUATION IN IRAN—(*Continued from Page* 4)

not heed to the advice and gave evasive answers which almost amounted to refusal. The combined military action of the Allied Governments became therefore necessary and Hitler has been anticipated and so the Middle East and India have been saved from imminent danger besides which Iran has also been protected from the possibility of German occupation. The real extent to which Iran has been benefited does not seem yet to have been appreciated. The Iranians will now be fed instead of being despoiled and their national integrity and political, economic and social interests safeguarded.

DANGER TO INDIA ELIMINATED.

The real danger to India which has been eliminated by the action in Iran deserves to be appreciated better than it is. German strategy has always insisted on taking hold of all air fields in the countries which Hitler wanted to occupy. This plan was carried out in Holland. Similarly, Syrian air-fields were in the hands of Germans and some assistance was rendered to Rashid Ali therefrom. In Iran German experts and agents were busy preparing facilities for the occupation of air-fields at a given signal. That signal was evident as can be seen from the German advance in the Ukraine. It is well to remember that there are landing grounds at Kwash and Iranshahr in Eastern Iran which are 45 miles and 135 miles respectively from Baluchistan. Baluchistan, the North-West Frontier Province, Sind, Kathiawar and Rajputana, the Punjab, Delhi and the Bombay Province as far as Poona and Satara are all within 1,000 miles bombing radius of these air-fields.

A section of the Press and the radio in Turkey, desiring perhaps to placate Germany, has been criticising this military action in Iran. Of course, affairs in Iraq and Syria afford these neutral people pleasure and relief and perhaps the incursion of Germany into Russia also may do likewise because these two Powers, waging a fierce war against each other, would, they may think, exhaust themselves and leave them in peace. But the Turks feared that the Anglo-Soviet action in Iran might result in a German countermove through the Muslim neutral territory. Of course, the German press and the German radio are warning Turkey that she is being encircled by Russia and Great Britain and the only method of escaping from it is to walk into the Axis parlour. There is the important question of the passage of Axis warships through the Straits and one may well believe that the Turks are being pressed hard to break the Montreaux Convention by permitting such a passage. There is, however, absolutely no evidence that Turkey is yielding to this pressure and that is a great point.

AXIS BROADCASTS AND FACTS

Two years of warfare have seen a dozen ferocious Nazi invasions of European countries. Nowhere in Europe have they seen the popular acceptance of Nazi tyranny which Hitler counted on securing by one means or another.

German victories have not meant a German victory. German failures, and there have been many of them, are pointers to ultimate German defeat.

From the day when the German radio exultantly claimed that the British Expeditionary Force was doomed to annihilation at Dunkirk, the enemy's broadcasts have continued to provide a significant commentary on his operational failures.

Not only do they show clearly what Hitler aimed at and where he has been frustrated. They offer pointers also to the utter unreliability of Axis " news ".

Dunkirk

" It is now impossible for Great Britain to withdraw her troops."—*German broadcast in English, 28th May* 1940.

" The British and French troops in the area in which they are encircled by the German forces are faced with annihilation."—*German broadcast in English, 30th May* 1940.

Battle of Britain

" Britain has now only a few airmen left."—*German broadcast in Hindustani, 10th September* 1940.

" London lies utterly destroyed."—*German broadcast in Hindustani, 11th September* 1940.

Gibraltar

" Spain is about to declare war on Britain. Her first attack will be on Gibraltar."—*German-controlled Dutch broadcast, 23rd September* 1940, *quoting ' Popolo D'Italia.'*

" Gibraltar is a sort of door between the Mediterranean and the Atlantic. The British will have to leave this place because their naval power is weakened."—*German broadcast in Hindustani, 31st May* 1941.

Alexandria

" While it is difficult for England to concentrate her naval forces, the Italian air force can be used to control the whole of the Mediterranean. As soon as Britain loses Alexandria, she has lost her last chance."—*German broadcast in English, 29th August* 1940.

" Alexandria is no longer able to offer resistance and Mr. Churchill is preparing the people for still another glorious retreat."—*German broadcast in English, 31st August* 1940.

" The harbour of Alexandria has been completely paralysed."—*German broadcast in English, 25th September* 1940.

" With the Italian attacks on Mersa Matruh the way to Alexandria has been opened."—*Italian broadcast in Hindustani, 27th September* 1940.

Crete

" Germany can use Crete as a base for all possible military operations."—*German broadcast in Hindustani, 3rd June* 1941.

" The Japanese Press features the great victory of the German armed forces in Crete and says that the complete collapse of the British Empire is unavoidable."—*German broadcast in English, 4th June* 1941.

" The capture of Crete from the British hands is the first great step towards Britain's expulsion from Tobruk, Alexandria and the Suez Canal."—*German broadcast in Persian, 15th June* 1941.

Tobruk

" The position of the last British troops at Tobruk is hopeless."—*German broadcast in English, 17th April* 1941.

" The German troops are tightening their iron ring round Tobruk. . . . It is improbable that the enemy will be able to escape."—*German broadcast in Hindustani, 27th April* 1941.

" The Italian and German forces launched a heavy attack on Tobruk and occupied certain parts of it. The British troops are in a fix. It seems that either they will surrender or reach the lowest point of the depths of Hell. To the east of Sollum warfare has begun. It seems that Alexandria is going to be akin to Dunkirk for the English heroes. But whither will they flee this time?—*Axis broadcast in Hindustani (Himalaya Station), 8th May* 1941.

" The siege of Tobruk is being intensified and the fall of the town is no longer in doubt."—*Italian broadcast in English, 4th May* 1941.

Iraq, Syria, Iran

" Britain's real aim in the Balkans had been to disorganise the German transport system to Eastern Europe. . . . Instead of this the British adventure might lead to Germany reaching the oil zones of Iraq and Iran, as well as the liquidation of Britain's position in Egypt."—*German broadcast in English, 2nd May* 1941.

" That the British shall be defeated in Syria is quite certain."—*Axis broadcast in Hindustani (Himalaya Station), 10th June* 1941.

" British military activities in Syria, Lebanon, Palestine and Iraq have been everywhere slowed down by German air raids . . . Britain's efforts in all these battlefields will fail, if Germany continues her activities."—*German broadcast in Persian, 15th June* 1941.

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED

Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East

FOR THE PERIOD AUGUST 25–31, 1941

IRAN WEEK

"This morning Iran was invaded by the British and Russian forces. Iran is determined to fight for her freedom and independence. Mr. Churchill, who is never tired of propagating that the British are fighting for the liberty of small nations, is responsible for the invasion of the Muslim country of Iran." (*German news in Arabic and Persian, Aug.* 25.)

The military action in Iran has been necessitated by the German intrigues in that country and is designed solely to prevent the Axis from menacing the security of Muslim countries in the Middle East, of India and of Russia. Action was taken only after repeated diplomatic warnings at Teheran had failed to produce Iranian defence measures against the German danger.

Similar action had to be taken in the last Great War for similar reasons, and at the close of the war every British soldier was withdrawn from Iran. The joint Anglo-American declaration of August 14 makes it clear that the Allies have no territorial designs in Iran or elsewhere.

"The Anglo-Soviet invasion of a neutral Muslim country is one of the greatest crimes of world-history. This is obviously the result of the vicious meeting of Churchill and Roosevelt. . . the British deprived Muslim countries like Syria, Lebanon and Iraq of their independence. Germany will soon defeat these enemies of humanity and give them their due." (*German news in Persian and Arabic, Aug.* 26.)

It may be recalled that in September 1940 Berlin said of General de Gaulle's operations at Dakar: "Churchill has committed the biggest crime in the history of the world." Previous "biggest crimes in history" of which Germany has accused Mr. Churchill were the sinking of the British ships *Athenia* and *City of Benares*, the Munich beerhall explosion, and—believe it or not—the bombing of Buckingham Palace.

After dealing with the Quisling rebels in Iraq, Britain restored the sovereignty and independence previously enjoyed by Iraq as a result of British policy. Over Syria and Lebanon Britain never exercised authority, but she has strongly supported the Free French promise of Syrian independence.

FRUSTRATED FLOUNDERINGS

"The British Government have announced the complete blockade of the Muslim country Iran." (*German news in Persian and Arabic, Aug.* 27.)

Blockade has not been declared, but trade with Iran is to be carried on under the licence system so that goods destined for Iran do not reach the hands of the Nazis. The export of wheat and other foodstuffs to Germany to pay for the "industralization" of Iran with Nazis at key-posts has already caused misery and starvation among the people of Iran. The British operations, unlike every military expedition the Germans have undertaken, are followed by food-trucks entering, not leaving the country.

"It is said that immense satisfaction is expressed in Jewish circles in Palestine at the Anglo-Soviet move in Iran. Who is not aware of the Jewish attitude towards Islam? How could they feel otherwise?" (*Italian news in Arabic, Aug. 27.*)

This is the ingenious method adopted by the Italian "Protector of Islam" for surmounting the difficult hurdle presented by the Palestine Arab newspaper, *Falastin*, which writes:

"The Allied march represents resolute, prompt and timely action. The Anglo-Soviet drive is not designed to undermine the sovereignty of Iran."

"The decision of the new Iranian Government to suspend hostilities can be well compared with the attitude of someone who, being unarmed, is suddenly faced by two armed burglars in his house." (*German news in English, Aug. 29.*)

The new Iranian Government having announced its desire for a satisfactory settlement on the basis of co-operation with Britain and Russia, its attitude can still better be compared with someone who, having failed to penetrate the disguise of the burglars in his house, has recognized the uniform of the police who have entered in pursuit of them.

FASHIONS IN AIR ACTIVITY

"The British army made an attack on Iran, and British aircraft began to bomb the cities of Iran. It is officially known by the Iranian Government that the number of the killed soldiers and citizens is 3,000 approximately." (*German news in Hindustani, Aug. 30.*)

In notable contrast to the Nazis, whose first "approach" to the Yugoslav people was a mass bombing attack on the undefended city of Belgrade, British air activity in the Iran operations has been confined to the dropping of leaflets and the strafing of aerodromes. There has been no bombing of towns.

Casualties among the military have not yet been announced. The lumping together of civilian and military casualties to produce their own figure is typical of Nazi ideas of warfare.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 2nd September 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrols (not specifically mentioned) over West European coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
August 27, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel, Belgium and N. France, including attacks on aerodromes.	8 day fighters.	10 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Mannheim**; other targets in W. Germany; docks at Ostend; Dunkirk; Boulogne.	Nil.	..
August 28, Thursday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel, Holland and N. France, including raid on docks and shipping at **Rotterdam.**	7 day bombers. 5 day fighters.	...
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on industrial objectives at **Duisburg-Ruhrort**; other targets in W. Germany; docks at Ostend.	9 night bombers.	..
August 29, Friday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel, low countries and N. France.	10 day fighters (1 pilot safe).	10 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on industrial districts of **Frankfurt-am-Main** and **Mannheim**; docks and railways at Le Havre.	5 night bombers.	..
August 30, Saturday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over English Channel, French and Belgian coasts, including attack on shipping (two flak-ships afire).	3 day bombers.	..
	R.A.F. Coastal Command day bomber attack on shipping off Norwegian coast (one ship hit).		
	R.A.F. night bomber raid on docks at Cherbourg ..	Nil.	..
August 31, Sunday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on industrial targets in Lille; aerodrome at Lamion; ship building yards at Le Trait.	2 day fighters.	..
	R.A.F. single day bomber stratosphere raid on Bremen.		
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Essen**; **Cologne**; other targets in Ruhr and Rhineland.	Nil.	..
September 1, Monday.	(No reports of day operations).		
	R.A.F. night bomber raid on Cologne	1 night bomber.	..
September 2, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including attack on escorted supply ship off Dunkirk (ship hit, E-boat a fire).	2 day bombers.	3 day fighters.
	R.A.F. Coastal Command day bomber raid on convoy off Norwegian coast (large ship and escort vessel torpedoed).		
	R.A.F. single day bomber stratosphere raid on Bremen.		
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Berlin**; **Frankfurt-am-Main**; **Mannheim**: invasion bases at Ostend and Dunkirk.	9 night bombers.	..

(*Continued on Page* 17)

DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

5th Sep.—In sweeps over the Channel and France, the Royal Air Force accounts for an enemy tanker and bombs a factory at La Pallice.

Slight enemy activity is reported over North-east Scotland.

Soviet planes raid Berlin.

6th Sep.—The Royal Air Force attacks enemy shipping at Oslo.

7th Sep.—The Royal Air Force attacks targets in Rhineland and the Ruhr and makes offensive sweeps over France.

An escort vessel is blown up and a supply ship set on fire by British bombers off the Dutch coast.

Slight enemy activity is reported over south-west and eastern England.

8th Sep.—Berlin suffers the heaviest raid ever at the hands of the Royal Air Force. Numerous fires are caused by high-explosives dropped by hundreds of planes. Shipyard in Kiel and the docks at Boulogne are also attacked. A German flak vessel is sunk off Ostend.

A few German raiders dive-bomb a cinema, a school and some private houses in a town on the south-east coast of England.

9th Sep.—The Royal Air Force raids the important industrial centre of Kassel, Munster and other objectives in Western Germany, as well as the docks at Cherbourg. High-explosives are dropped in Norwegian coastal areas.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

5th Sep.—A British submarine torpedoes an enemy cruiser of over 10,000 tons off the Straits of Messina.

Other successes scored by British submarines in the Mediterranean are an Italian liner of over 20,000 tons torpedoed and sunk; a large heavily laden tanker also sunk; an Italian supply ship of 5,000 tons severely damaged; and, a supply ship of 8,000 tons torpedoed and sunk.

6th Sep.—British submarine have accounted for an Italian liner of over 11,000 tons sailing in a convoy off Tripoli and also another ship of over 4,000 tons in the Central Mediterranean.

Some casualties are caused when enemy planes raid Alexandria and the Suez Canal area.

The Royal Air Force and the Fleet Air Arm attack industrial and military targets in Libya and South Italy.

7th Sep.—Mussolini reviews fresh divisions of Italian troops going to Russia.

The Royal Air Force destroys a number of enemy aircraft on the ground in the course of raids on Libyan centres.

An alert is sounded in Rome and anti-aircraft batteries open fire.

8th Sep.—An enemy convoy is attacked in the Mediterranean by the Royal Air Force and two ships severely damaged. Enemy bombing attacks on Tobruk cause negligible damage.

9th Sep.—The United States freighter *Steel Seafarer*, carrying American war supplies, is bombed and sunk in the Red Sea.

A British submarine torpedoes and sinks a large Italian schooner in Central Mediterranean. And another British submarine torpedoes and sinks an Italian tanker, sailing in a convoy in the Aegean Sea outside Turkish territorial waters.

Heavy bombers of the Royal Air Force attack Palermo in Sicily. Libyan bases are also raided.

10th Sep.—British bombers make a heavy raid on the Corinth Canal. Aerodromes and landing-grounds in Libya are attacked.

11th Sep.—The Royal Air Force raids Genoa and Turin in North Italy as well as Messina and other Sicilian and Libyan bases.

An Italian ship of 4,000 tons is sunk in the Aegean Sea by a British submarine.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

5th Sep.—The United States destroyer *Green en route* to Iceland is torpedoed by a German submarine, which however misses its mark. President Roosevelt announces that he is looking into the matter.

6th Sep.—Britih submarine have account-Greer incident says that the German submarine was the first to be attacked and had to defend itself with a torpedo.

7th Sep.—The United States Navy Department categorically contradicts the German account of the Greer incident. Mr. Wendell Willkie, broadcasting from New York, urges President Roosevelt to take up the Nazi challenge.

9th Sep.—The former Danish ship Sessa, operated by the United States Maritime Commission, is sunk 300 miles south-west of Iceland.

10th Sep.—The British Government, in a communication to the United States Government, remove misconceptions regarding the use of Lease-Lend material obtained from America.

11th Sep.—Major-General Brett, the Chief of the United States Air Corps, arrives in Cairo on a tour of inspection of the Middle East. He is a member of the United States War Supplies Mission to Moscow.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

5th Sep.—The German High Command claims progress in the Leningrad sector but it is evident that fierce fighting is going on on the Northern, Central and Southern Fronts. German attempts to cross the Dnieper are repulsed and enemy transports are sunk in the Baltic.

6th Sep.—A Soviet Communiqué announces that two German battalions have been completely annihilated by Cossacks behind the German lines. A German General is killed and many prisoners taken.

Germany is reported to be sending grain to Finland in order to induce the Finns to continue the struggle against Russia.

7th Sep.—German bombers raid the town and harbour of Odessa. The Germans have sustained heavy losses of men and material in the Central Sector and have been driven out from advanced positions in the Leningrad area. The Rome Radio announces that British planes are being used by Russians at Leningrad.

8th Sep.—The Germans claim the capture of Schlusselburg, 25 miles east of Leningrad, and the Finns to have reached the river Svir between Lake Onega and Lake Ladoga. But Leningrad is far from being encircled and the Russians in their counter-attacks in the Central Sector have routed seven German divisions and retaken Yelnya, 40 miles south of Smolensk.

It is officially stated that British supplies are reaching Russia on a considerable scale. In order to foil Germans' attempts to augment their coal supplies, an Allied force, consisting of British, Canadians and Norwegians, is reported to have occupied the Island of Spitzbergen in the Arctic Ocean and taken control of the coal mines in the area.

9th Sep.—The Russians re-capture over 50 villages in the Central Sector, where the Germans are retreating. A German air raid on Moscow is frustrated. In the South, Rumanian troops have been brought to a standstill by the strength of the Odessa defences.

WAR IN THE AIR—*(Continued from Page 15)*

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 2nd September 1941 :—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attacks (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses
August 27	Nil.	..
August 28	Nil.	..
August 29	Nil.	1 night bomber.
August 30	Nil.	..
August 31	Nil.	1 night bomber.
September 1	Nil.	..
September 2	Nil.	..

10th Sep.—The Russian advance continues in the Central Sector, the Germans sustaining huge losses.

11th Sep.—The Germans have developed two thrusts—one in the direction of Velikie Lukie, 125 miles north-east of Smolensk, and the other in the area north of Kiev.

The Russian counter-offensive launched by Marshal Timoshenko in the Central Sector is making headway.

The Italians get the worst of an air battle with the Russians in the Dnieper region.

BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, SYRIA, ETC.

5th Sep.—It is reported that Bulgaria has refused to fight Russia in spite of German pressure.

All is quiet in Iran, rebel bands having been dispersed.

6th Sep.—The British and Soviet Governments have handed a second note to the Iran Government.

7th Sep.—Indian troops, advancing to the town of Sultanabad, have brought the important oil wells of Iran under British protection.

A German delegation has arrived in Turkey for trade talks.

8th Sep.—The Iranian Government accept the Allied terms: all Axis Legations in the country are to be closed and German nationals to be handed over.

10th Sep.—The Iran Government have already stopped cypher facilities for Axis Legations for communicating with Germany or Italy.

Marshal Von Brauchitch, the German Commander-in-Chief, is in Sofia on a tour of inspection of the German troops now massing in Bulgaria.

11th Sep.—German nationals in Iran are being surrendered to the British and Russian authorities. Meanwhile Japan is looking after Italian interests in Iran.

The Soviet has warned Bulgaria that her conduct in allowing Germany to use her territory in order to forward the campaign in Russia does not conform with normal diplomatic usage.

SHIPPING

5th Sep.—The German High Command admits in a radio broadcast that less British tonnage has been sunk by German U-boats in the last two months than in the months from February to June.

The Danish ship *Malaya* has been sunk in the Atlantic.

6th Sep.—A 2000-ton Vichy supply ship has been captured by a British destroyer off the French coast.

The new United States cruiser *Atlanta* is launched.

7th Sep.—Two enemy submarines are sunk in the Atlantic in one night by a British destroyer.

8th Sep.—It is revealed that seven million out of the thirteen million tons of shipping belonging to the Allied countries under German occupation have been rescued by the British.

A German U-boat surrenders to a British Coastal Command aircraft and is taken in tow by the Royal Navy.

9th Sep.—The British Navy sinks a German destroyer, an armoured trawler and another vessel off Murmansk.

The German High Command admits the sinking of an artillery training ship of 14,000 tons by the British Navy in Norwegian waters.

British naval patrols sink two enemy supply ships and an E-boat in the English Channel.

Reuter learns that the sinking of British and Allied ships in July and August did not amount to much more than one-third of the German and Italian tonnage sunk by Allied aircraft and submarines.

Mr. Churchill reveals that British scientists have largely mastered Germany's latest secret weapon, the ' acoustic mine '.

10th Sep.—An enemy supply ship in a convoy off the Norwegian coast is topedoed by Royal Air Force coastal command aircraft.

11th Sep.—It is reported that a German raider has sunk a Dutch motorship in the Pacific, about a thousand miles west of Panama.

FAR EAST

5th Sep.—The Japanese Cabinet approves of a plan to cut down still further the private use of all Japanese means of transport.

6th Sep.—The United States Secretary of State, Mr. Cordell Hull, assures the Chinese Ambassador in Washington that China need feel no anxiety over the American-Japanese exploratory talks.

7th Sep.—The Chinese are making preparations to recapture the islands lying off the Fukien coast.

Gurkha troops have arrived in Malaya to strengthen its defence.

Japanese censorship has stopped reports in all Japanese newspapers of the arrival of two American tankers at Vladivostok with oil for Russia.

9th Sep.—It is learnt in London that no materials that could be used for munitions have been exported from Britain to Japan for three months past.

Mr. Duff Cooper arrives in Singapore on his special mission.

11th Sep.—The creation of a new General Staff for the defence of Japan proper, Korea, Formosa and Sakhalin is announced.

VICHY AND OCCUPIED FRANCE

5th Sep.—It is stated in Washington that M. Henri Haye, Vichy's Ambassador to the United States, will leave America for good.

6th Sep.—Three French hostages are shot by the German authorities in occupied France as a reprisal for the attempted assassination of a German soldier.

8th Sep.—Russians, whether Communists or not, are being rounded up in France at the behest of the German authorities.

10th Sep.—Vichy's negotiations with the Germans for a reduction in the occupation charges have reached a deadlock.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

5th Sep.—The Germans have fined the Archibishop of the Netherlands 500 guilders for failing to obey a German police order.

8th Sep.—Italy is taking special precautions in Croatia against surprise attacks from the sea.

10th Sep.—A State of Emergency is proclaimed in Norway by the German Commissar, who threatens drastic steps against trade unionists. A leading Norwegian lawyer is executed for "plotting a general strike" of workers.

Great Britain agrees to lift the blockade in order to feed the starving Greek people.

11th Sep.—A spirit of revolt is smouldering throughout Rumania, it is reported.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

5th Sep.—United States is arranging a stabilization loan to Mexico, simultaneously with a settlement of the dispute between the Mexican Government and the American oil companies.

7th Sep.—The Stockholm Radio sharply warns Major Quisling to mind his own business and not to trouble himself about Swedish policy.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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